

## CARLA'S COLUMN



### Celebrating a Year of Standout Moments

More Americans than  
ever enjoyed the  
wonders of the Library.

The holiday season again offers us an opportunity to celebrate our shared success throughout the past year, as we look ahead to an exciting and opportunity-filled year ahead.

As I am every year, I'm so extraordinarily grateful for the outstanding work that you accomplished across the Library in 2022.

Together, we adjusted to new work conditions and resumed many of the activities that halted during the pandemic.

We preserved a health-first approach to our on-site work, as Dr. Sandra Charles and the entire Health Services team worked tirelessly to respond to employees experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, track illness reports, provide vaccine clinics and much more.

We returned to an in-person National Book Festival at the Con-

**CARLA'S COLUMN, CONTINUED ON 8**



Structures in the exhibit's center aisle are meant to suggest the tradition of community barn raising.

Shawn Miller

## Major New Library Exhibition to Open Next Week

Visitors will learn how their own lives connect to a  
venerable American tradition.

**BY WENDI A. MALONEY**

Like many millions of American girls, Cynthia Wayne joined the Girl Scouts as a youngster. Also like many others, she diligently earned badges for mastering skills – toy-making, housekeeping, swimming, camping, folklore – and mounted them on a sash.

Now, the longtime exhibit director's sash sits within a new Library show set to open in the Jefferson Building next week: "Join In: Voluntary Associations in America." The exhibit explores how, from the earliest days of English colonization, Americans have organized them-

selves in self-governing groups to achieve ends from simple fellowship to major social change.

"I don't think I was aware of much more than how much fun it was to belong to a group of girls who met every week to do lots of interesting activities," Wayne said of her Girl Scout days. "In retrospect, I have realized that as an organization, the Girl Scouts has continued to be a significant place for girls to discover themselves and to learn how they can, in fact, make a difference."

Wayne's experience reflects what

**JOIN IN, CONTINUED ON 7**

# NOTICES

## DONATED TIME

The following employees have satisfied eligibility requirements to receive leave donations from other staff members. Contact Amy McAllister at [amcallister@loc.gov](mailto:amcallister@loc.gov).

Cherkea Howery  
Wilbur King

Mary Lamb  
Stacie Moats

## MOVING ON: NEW PAY PERIOD POSTED

The Moving On column formerly published in the Gazette is now accessible on the [intranet site of the Office of Communications](#). A new report for pay period 23 was added to the site this week. Moving On is a compilation of personnel changes at the Library as reported by the National Finance Center.

Questions? Submit them to [AskHCD@loc.gov](mailto:AskHCD@loc.gov).

## LCPA WOMEN'S FORUM HOLIDAY SOCIAL

**Dec. 15, 12:30 p.m.**  
[Online](#)

Pour a mug of warm coffee or tea and join the Women's Forum of the Library of Congress Professional Association for a lunchtime holiday social. Meet your colleagues, network and enjoy a relaxing chat before the holidays. All are welcome.

Access the presentation [here](#).

Questions? Contact [womensforumboard@loc.gov](mailto:womensforumboard@loc.gov).

For updates from the women's forum, [join the Listserv](#).

## DONATE TO THE LCPA THROUGH CFC

Did you know that the Continuing Education Fund (CEF) of the Library of Congress Professional Association (LCPA) is a Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) charity? Designate CEF using CFC code No. 26333. Make a one-time or recurring donation.

It's a matter of staff members helping colleagues, promoting continuing education and enrichment. Grow with us!

Questions? Contact Julie Biggs ([jubi@loc.gov](mailto:jubi@loc.gov)) or Anne Peele ([apeele@loc.gov](mailto:apeele@loc.gov)).

For more information about CEF, visit the [LCPA's intranet site](#).

Be the face of change: Donate to the [Combined Federal Campaign](#).

## PRINCIPLES OF APPROPRIATIONS LAW WEBINAR

**Jan. 26 and Feb. 7, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.**  
[Online](#)

Appropriations law attorneys from the Government Accountability Office will teach the core principles governing how federal agencies use their appropriated funds.

Topics include the purposes for which agencies may use appropriations; the time period during which appropriations are available; the requirement that they be used for genuine needs; and the amount of available appropriations. Class time will combine lecture and exercises to allow participants to apply the material to situations they will likely encounter in their daily work.

Click on the date that best fits your schedule to register in LOC Learn:

[Jan. 26](#) [Feb. 7](#)

Questions? Contact Karen Young at [kyoung@loc.gov](mailto:kyoung@loc.gov).

# GAZETTE

LIBRARY  
OF CONGRESS

[loc.gov/staff/gazette](http://loc.gov/staff/gazette)

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### MISSION OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The Library's central mission is to engage, inspire and inform Congress and the American people with a universal and enduring source of knowledge and creativity.

### ABOUT THE GAZETTE

An official publication of the Library of Congress, The Gazette encourages Library managers and staff to submit articles and photographs of general interest. Submissions will be edited to convey the most necessary information.

Back issues of The Gazette in print are available in the Communications Office, LM 143. Electronic archived issues and a color PDF file of the current issue are available online at [loc.gov/staff/gazette](http://loc.gov/staff/gazette).

### GAZETTE WELCOMES LETTERS FROM STAFF

Staff members are invited to use the Gazette for lively and thoughtful debate relevant to Library issues. Letters must be signed by the author, whose place of work and telephone extension should be included so we can verify authorship. If a letter calls for management response, an explanation of a policy or actions or clarification of fact, we will ask for management response.—Ed.

### Library of Congress Gazette

Washington, DC 20540-1620

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### GAZETTE DEADLINES

The deadline for editorial copy for the Jan. 6 Gazette is Wednesday, Dec. 28.

Email editorial copy and letters to the editor to [mhartsell@loc.gov](mailto:mhartsell@loc.gov) and [wmal@loc.gov](mailto:wmal@loc.gov).

To promote events through the Library's online calendar ([www.loc.gov/loc/events](http://www.loc.gov/loc/events)) and the Gazette Calendar, email event and contact information to [calendar@loc.gov](mailto:calendar@loc.gov) by 9 a.m. Monday of the week of publication.

Boxed announcements should be submitted electronically (text files) by 9 a.m. Monday the week of publication to [mhartsell@loc.gov](mailto:mhartsell@loc.gov) and [wmal@loc.gov](mailto:wmal@loc.gov).

# From Chaos to Organization and Discovery

Project expands access to books that supported mid-20th-century U.S. cultural outreach.

BY HONG TA-MOORE

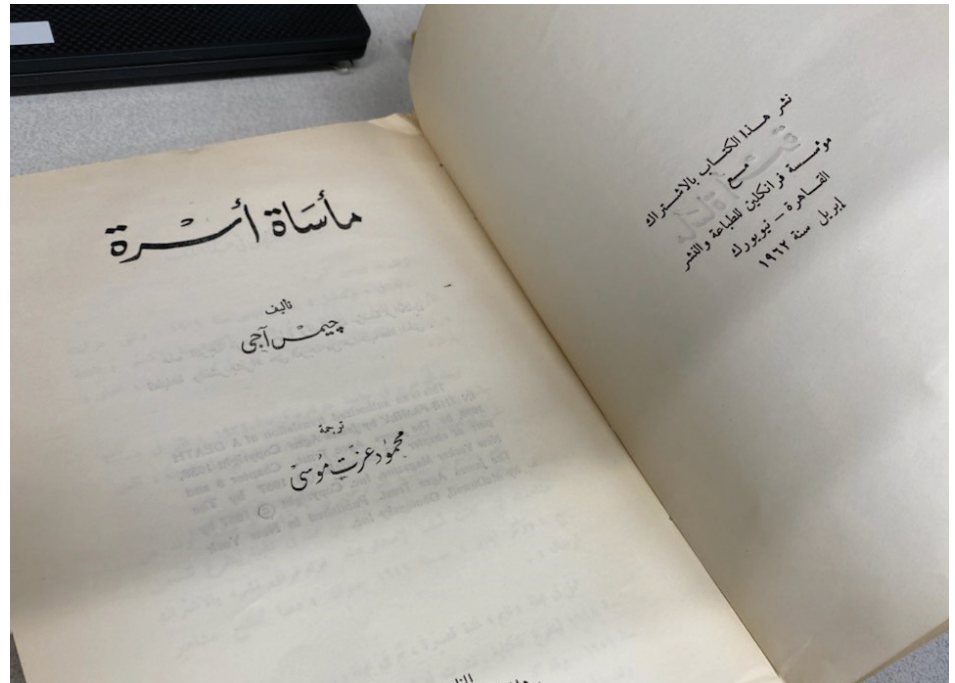
After three years of careful planning and cross-divisional collaboration, 2,000 Arabic and Persian books are newly cataloged and discoverable on the Library's website. They are part of the [Franklin Book Program](#) collection of American books translated into foreign languages from 1952 to 1978. The Middle East and South Asia Section of the Asian and Middle Eastern Division (ASME) coordinated the effort to increase their accessibility.

"Making this unique collection accessible is significant," Jessalyn Zoom, ASME's chief, said. "It provides a window to researchers on material in the areas of arts, literature, humanities and sciences, and it is important to the study of U.S. cultural diplomacy during the Cold War era."

The [Franklin Book Program](#) grew out of a 1951 partnership between the American Library Association's International Relations Committee and the Foreign Trade Committee of the American Book Publishers Council (now the Association of American Publishers). The program aimed to translate and distribute American educational materials to developing countries to increase literacy.

In addition, it aspired to "strengthen the position of the U.S. and the free world and to preserve world peace" and to "help the peoples of the Middle East and thus to further the welfare of humanity."

From its inception through 1978, the program translated and distributed thousands of titles in many languages. The



This Arabic translation of "A Death in the Family" by James Agee is part of the Franklin Book Program collection.

Library has approximately 4,000 of them, including over 2,000 in Arabic and Persian.

The project's biggest challenge for ASME's cataloging librarians and technical staff members was not the work itself but preparing for it. Multiple reading rooms house books in the collection, and many initial meetings took place at the end of 2019 with specialists from the Rare Book and Special Collections, African and Middle Eastern, Conservation and Collections Management divisions. ASME's staff then laid out the blueprint for distributing, cataloging, conserving and housing this unique collection.

Afterward, ASME cataloging librarians wrote cataloging guidelines and created a template, both of which are now being used by other cataloging sections and overseas offices that handle the languages in the collection.

Even when the Library staff shifted to working online due to COVID-19, communications among stakeholders continued to flow. Access to the materials during the height

of the pandemic was difficult, however, because staff members could be on-site only four hours at a time to retrieve work, limiting their ability to closely examine materials and perform tasks. Despite this lack of access and the uncertainties of the pandemic, staff members finished over half of the titles by March 2021, the one-year anniversary of the pandemic.

"The success of this project is a testament that good results come out of collaboration and careful planning," Zoom said. "Many players from various divisions and directorates contributed to this project, making it a fun, one-of-a-kind, interdisciplinary and cross-divisional collaboration for the benefit of the Library and our global researchers."

Special thanks go to Michael Chyet, Amal Morsy, Eman Wassif and Husein Younossei of the Middle East and South Asia Section for their dedication to the project.

For more information about the Franklin Book Program collection, see the [LibGuide](#) devoted to it. ■



# Ethics – Holiday Gift Giving and Parties

Happy holidays! As you enjoy the season's festivities and gift exchanges, the Office of the General Counsel reminds you to identify and address ethics issues that may arise – and to be safe.

## What is a gift?

A gift is anything of monetary value, including food, drink, money and entertainment. Parties may thus be a kind of gift.

## What is the basic rule about gifts?

You must avoid any action that might result in, or appear to be, a conflict of interest or use of your public office for private gain. You may not solicit or accept a gift that is offered because of your official position.

## Who are prohibited sources of gifts?

Generally, you may not accept gifts from a prohibited source – someone who:

- Does business or seeks to do business with the Library;
- Is subject to regulation by the Library; or,
- Has interests that may be substantially affected by your official actions (or inactions).

Appearances are important. Contracting officers, contracting officer's representatives, acquisitions officers, managers and Copyright Office staff members should be especially careful when offered gifts that could appear to influence their official actions. This includes gifts from contractors and lobbyists.

## What are exceptions to the gift ban?

The key exceptions are:

- Gifts clearly based on obvious family or personal relationships.
- Food and refreshments on infrequent occasions during meetings.
- Events that are open to the public.
- Items of nominal value (greeting

cards and candy canes).

## May I accept a holiday gift from a close friend who works for a Library contractor?

Yes, if your friendship predates your friend's contract with the Library. If a reasonable person would think that your friendship was based on your work relationship, there is an appearance problem.

## May our office invite contractor employees to our holiday party?

You may invite contractor employees to your holiday party, and you may ask them to bring or pay for their share of the refreshments. Contributions must come from the contractor employees personally, not from the company. The company may not bill the Library for the time that its employees are at the party.

## May I attend a contractor's or lobbyist's holiday party?

No, unless the event is open to the general public, or unless you are the "plus one" of a person (e.g., an employee of the host) who was invited in his or her own capacity.

## May I give my supervisor a holiday gift? May I accept a gift from a subordinate?

No, except for voluntary gifts of nominal value.

## May a supervisor solicit funds for our holiday party?

No.

## May a supervisor participate in our office's voluntary gift exchange?

Yes. Each participant is essentially "buying" a gift.

## May we require people to contribute to or attend holiday parties?

No. Both contributions and event participation should be strictly voluntary. Specifying a suggested amount for voluntary contributions is allowed.

## If I receive a gift from a prohibited source or from a subordinate, and if no exception applies, what should I do with the gift?

Return the gift or pay for it. If neither is an option, make the gift available to everyone in your office and ask the giver to not give you gifts in the future.

## May our office serve alcoholic beverages at our holiday party?

Only with advance written approval from your service unit head.

## What are some ways to make parties safer during the pandemic?

- Do not attend if you are not feeling well or were recently exposed to someone with COVID-19 or an illness with similar symptoms.
- Wear a mask and be up to date on your vaccinations.
- Avoid large, indoor crowds. Consider a virtual attendance option and use of a large room or an outdoor space.

Specific questions? Contact [ethics@loc.gov](mailto:ethics@loc.gov). ■



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## QUESTION & ANSWER



### Pedro Gonzalez-Fernandez

*Pedro Gonzalez-Fernandez, a digital collections specialist, is now on detail as a special assistant in Discovery and Preservation Services.*

#### **Tell us about your background.**

I grew up in Gaithersburg, Maryland, right at the end of the Red Line. I went to school for music, doing an undergrad in piano at Shepherd University. After that, I went to the University of Maryland, earning a master's degree in musicology and a master's in library and information science. Initially, I pursued a Ph.D. in musicology, but I later developed an interest in librarianship, which appealed to my passion for universal access and digital scholarship methods.

Before coming to the Library, I worked at the Council on Library and Information Resources managing the day-to-day of its Recordings at Risk program, a digital reformatting effort aimed at preserving rare and unique cultural heritage materials. This position provided a lot of perspective on how to develop digital preservation solutions with limited resources.

#### **What brought you to the Library, and how has your career evolved?**

About five years ago, I joined the

newly established Digital Content Management Section (DCM), and it has been exciting to watch the team grow. I appreciated being able to have a voice in constructing the unit's [mission and values](#), which the entire team created.

Over time, I was able to engage in project facilitation and management activity, such as conducting retrospectives and sprint meetings. Furthermore, my supervisor encouraged me to seek out related training opportunities, such as product owner training and agile team facilitation.

At present, I am on detail as special assistant to the associate librarian for Discovery and Preservation Services (DPS). This is another new unit, much like when I joined DCM, and it provides a great opportunity for me to support emerging initiatives using the lessons I've learned.

#### **What are some of your standout projects?**

I have been fortunate to work on exciting projects that involve collaboration from across the Library. As the group coordinator for the Dataset Acquisition Technical Group, I worked with staff from the Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access Directorate, the Collection Development Office, the Office of the Chief Information Officer and other divisions to develop scoping and selection criteria for dataset items, end-to-end acquisition workflows and appropriate access methods using loc.gov.

This effort led to the launch of the [Selected Datasets Collection](#) in June 2020, which has continued to grow in new directions, such as providing access to [crowdsourced datasets](#).

I am also part of the small team that wrote, revised and published

the "Digital Collections Management Compendium," the Library's definitive source for policies, guidelines and best practices that govern digital collection management activities.

This effort really woke up my inner policy junkie. More importantly, it gave me an opportunity to interface with stakeholders across the organization and to increase my overall understanding of how the Library operates.

#### **What do you enjoy doing outside work?**

I spend my free time writing and recording music. I've had the privilege of working with some great artists in the Washington, D.C., area and am always amazed at the innovative sounds coming out of local venues and events, such as Rhizome DC and Modular on the Mall.

I recently composed the score for my brother's video game, "Family Tech Support." It got third place in a 2022 game jam, and I could not be prouder!

Right now, I work mostly with samples to create beats and make how-to videos related to music production. Shout out to [Citizen DJ](#) and Brian Foo (a former LC innovator in residence) for providing access to a treasure trove of free sounds.

#### **What is something your co-workers may not know about you?**

I have a serious sweet tooth, and I love to bake. I got a stand mixer for my birthday last year, and I've put a lot of miles on it. And my cast iron cornbread is great!

Running outdoors is my exercise of choice. I like the meditative qualities of it, very reminiscent of practicing the piano. ■

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### NEW LCM ISSUE

#### **Our Treasured Home**

Celebrate the 125th anniversary of the magnificent Jefferson Building in the [latest issue of LCM](#).



## 13 TUESDAY

**Special Event:** Jason Reynolds will conclude his three-year term as national ambassador for young people's literature with an event with local youngsters. View the celebration virtually. 10:30 a.m., [online](#). Contact: 7-8000.

**Performance:** The American Folklife Center presents its annual mummies play. 1 and 3 p.m., Great Hall. Contact: 7-8000.

**Orientation:** The Geography and Map Division will introduce maps housed at the Library with a special focus on maps delineating the boundaries of Afghanistan in the 19th century. 3 p.m., [online](#). Contact: [ikea@loc.gov](mailto:ikea@loc.gov).

## 15 THURSDAY

**Live at the Library:** 5 to 8:30 p.m., Great Hall. [Get tickets](#). Contact: 7-8000.

**Holiday Celebration:** Celebrate the season with musical performances, festive refreshments, a visit from Santa and story time with Librarian of Congress Carla Hayden. 4:30 p.m., Great Hall. [Get tickets](#). Contact: 7-8000.

**Literacy Award Panel:** Lee Ann Potter, director of professional learning and outreach initiatives, will moderate a panel featuring the top three 2022 Literacy Award winners. 1 p.m., [online](#). Contact: 7-8000.

## 17 SATURDAY

**Stradivari Concert:** For the Library's annual Stradivari concert, the Aizuri Quartet will perform songs from diverse time periods, traditions and styles. 8 p.m., Coolidge Auditorium. Preconcert conversation with the artists. 6:30 p.m., Whittall Pavilion. Contact: 7-8000.

Request ADA accommodations for events five business days in advance at 7-6362 or [ADA@loc.gov](mailto:ADA@loc.gov). See [www.loc.gov/events](http://www.loc.gov/events)



Photo courtesy of the U.S. Copyright Office

Register of Copyrights Shira Perlmutter (center) joins Copyright Office honorees Erin Maloney (from left), LaShawne Stafford, Brittany Lamb, Mark Gray, Kankan Yu, Terra Johnson, Preeti Gupta, Michael Durrah, Lisa Berardi Marflak and Stephanie Rohan.

## Copyright Office Staff Members Honored

BY NICOLE LAMBERSON

The American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA) recognized Copyright Office staff members this fall for the quality of their performance at an awards ceremony at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center in National Harbor, Maryland.

AIPLA is a voluntary national bar association whose members are intellectual property legal professionals in private and corporate practice, government service and academia.

Each year at its annual meeting, AIPLA honors Copyright Office and U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) staff members nominated by their supervisors in recognition of their service and achievements during the past year. For the first time since the start of the pandemic, the recognition ceremony was held in person.

Register of Copyrights Shira Perlmutter joined USPTO director Kathi Vidal and AIPLA president Patrick Coyne on Oct. 27 to present award

certificates to 32 Copyright Office staff members.

"I was delighted to join Kathi Vidal ... and Patrick Coyne to present the award certificates," Perlmutter said.

Coyne noted that the award acknowledges the importance of Copyright Office and USPTO staff members in the success of the copyright, patent and trademark systems. "As an industry," he said, "we notice your hard work and deeply appreciate it."

Honorees this year were Sandra Barnes, Corey Chubbs, Ringgold Clayton, Corey Davis, Michael Durrah, Mark Gray, Preeti Gupta, Erica Hilliard, Marina Hodge, Terra Johnson, Clifton Knight, Brittany Lamb, Diane Lamb, Erin Maloney, Lisa Berardi Marflak, Ellen Park, John Payne, Charles C. Rogers, Stephanie Rohan, Reynaldo Rosado-Torres, Maren Read, Joseph Ruffino, Nora Scheland, DeNina Scott, Ashley Sherman, LaShawne Stafford, Beth Utter, Bryan Utter, CJ Wang, Megan Williams, John Wriggle and Kankan Yu. ■

## JOIN IN, CONTINUED FROM 1

“Join In” seeks to accomplish: to reveal to visitors how their participation in any number of groups is part of the fabric of American social life, one with a longer and richer history than many suspect.

Wayne collaborated with curator Nathan Dorn of the Law Library and co-curator Jurretta Heckscher, the early American specialist in the Main Reading Room, to organize the exhibit.

Inspired by the Library’s immensely successful 2014–15 exhibit marking the 800th anniversary of the Magna Carta, Library leaders initially envisioned a show celebrating another milestone: the 400th anniversary of the Nov. 21, 1620, signing of the Mayflower Compact. The agreement joined passengers on board the Mayflower, the ship that carried the English colonists to Plymouth, Massachusetts, into a single self-governing community.

The Law Library holds the earliest surviving text of the compact, printed in 1622 in “Mourt’s Relation,” a work by Mayflower voyagers. But organizers knew from the start they would need to draw in additional materials to put together a show. Eventually, they landed on the concept of voluntary associations.

Like many other events, “Join In” was delayed by the pandemic. But when it opens to the public on Dec. 16 in the south gallery, collection items from across the Library will convey a “story about how Americans, working with the tools they had, created organizations to advance their interests and their social goods,” Dorn said.

The exhibit traces those tools to English settlers – including those on the Mayflower. When difficult weather blew the ship and its 102 passengers off course, they ended up anchoring many miles north of where the English crown had authorized them to settle through a patent, or legal permit.

To address their predicament while they sought a new patent, the voyagers combined together

in a “civil body politic,” a 17th-century expression referring to a group of citizens acting together as a self-governing body.

Their doing so reflects “one of those fascinating moments when the legal heritage that gave rise to voluntary associations came to America,” Dorn said.

Visitors will encounter the Mayflower Compact in the first of three lofty barn structures in the exhibit’s center aisle. Meant to suggest the tradition of community barn raising, the structures showcase the history of American association building, along with the tools developed – charters, constitutions, bylaws – to advance organizational missions.

In the second barn, visitors will instantly recognize Benjamin Franklin’s face. “He’s a great person to focus on to illustrate that the American impulse to build voluntary associations was gathering steam,” Heckscher said.

Franklin was one of the most energetic association organizers of 18th-century America. He founded the American Philosophical Society, the Library Company of Philadelphia and the University of Pennsylvania.

He also advocated for one of the most enduring types of U.S. voluntary associations: fire departments. “Even today,” Heckscher said, “at least 70% of firefighters are volunteers.” On exhibit is a colorful 1877 Currier and Ives certificate of fire department membership.

Also housed within a barn is a first edition of Alexis de Tocqueville’s iconic “Democracy in America,” providing an outsider’s perspective.

After visiting the U.S. in 1831 and 1832, the French nobleman wrote about Americans’ inclination to create associations “for every conceivable purpose,” Dorn said. “He saw us getting together to solve our own problems and doing it in a way that was rule bound.”

Amid splashes of color along the gallery’s walls are examples of the

hundreds of thousands of associations Americans have established over nearly three centuries. A mix of manuscripts, prints and photos are organized according to themes including fellowship, benevolence, reform and emergency services.

Artifacts and captions tell stories of groups many visitors will know from personal experience: the Salvation Army (founded in the U.S. in 1880); the American Red Cross (1881); the American Federation of Labor (1886); the NAACP (1909); Alcoholics Anonymous (1935); the Mattachine Society (1950); the National Parent Teacher Association (1970); and Scouts for Equality (2012).

Other collection items reflect storied causes: abolition, the franchise, civil rights, conservation, health and well-being.

Although the concept of joining in suggests a spirit of inclusiveness, the society in which organizations arose practiced exclusions of certain groups from the start – exclusions mirrored in voluntary associations. The exhibit directly addresses this history while also documenting how many of those shut out used the tools of association to solve problems facing their communities.

A standout early example touches on freemasonry. Although the first American lodges, established as men’s fraternal associations in the 18th century, advocated for egalitarianism and tolerance, some excluded African Americans.

After being refused membership in Boston lodges, Prince Hall, a leather worker, abolitionist and Methodist lay minister, secured a British charter to open a lodge in 1784 for Black men in America. Since then, Prince Hall freemasonry has advocated for African American citizenship, education and civil rights. The exhibit includes a rare 1797 pamphlet by Prince Hall.

Beyond artifacts, an activities table invites visitors to apply ideas from the exhibit to real-life scenarios. And the show is bookended by two short films. The first

**JOIN IN, CONTINUED ON 8**

## CARLA'S COLUMN, CONTINUED FROM 1

vention Center, much to the delight of booklovers in attendance. I can't tell you how many elated attendees stopped me to express their thanks for the Library's commitment to this annual tradition.

We danced "all night long" with Gershwin Prize honoree Lionel Richie. We expanded our collections with notable new acquisitions, including the Kitchen Sisters' audio archive, Joan Miró's "Make-mono" scroll, the San Salvador Huejotzingo Codex, original artwork by children's author Vera B. Williams, the collection of legendary radio producer Jim Metzner and the papers of award-winning playwright Neil Simon.

We celebrated the 125th anniversary of the Thomas Jefferson Building and made great progress on the Visitor Experience Master Plan, which will transform the experience of visitors to the Library and spotlight the Library's dynamic mission and collections. In support of this visionary plan, we announced a \$10 million donation from the Kislak family that will create a dynamic new gallery exploring the history of the early Americas.

We invited the public to experience the Library in new ways during Live at the Library on Thursday evenings. Earlier this year, we opened the visually stunning exhibition, "Not an Ostrich: And Other Images from America's Library." And just next week, we will unveil our latest exhibit, "Join In," celebrating the role of voluntary associations in the history of our nation.

We celebrated the remarkable poet laureateship of Joy Harjo and welcomed our new poet laureate, Ada Limón, who dazzled us with her accessible and engaging poems that ground us in where we are and who we share our world with.

We bestowed the Kluge Prize for Achievement in the Study of Humanity on LGBTQ+ historian George Chauncey and awarded Jesmyn Ward the Prize for Ameri-

can Fiction. We added new music to the National Recording Registry and new films to the National Film Registry.

We launched a new Copyright Claims Board, offering a voluntary, alternative forum to federal courts, staffed by copyright experts using streamlined, affordable procedures. And we opened the Copyright Online Recordation System, continuing the modernization effort of the U.S. Copyright Office in partnership with the Office of the Chief Information Officer.

We built on the successful launch of the Of the People initiative, bringing diverse new cohorts of junior fellows and Archives, History and Heritage Advanced Internship Program interns to the Library to analyze, preserve and bring to light collections that represent the rich cultural and creative heritage of the United States. We awarded the first 10 Community Collections Grants that support contemporary cultural field research within diverse communities and three grants from the Connecting Communities Digital Initiative.

We grew the "FLOC" – Friends of the Library of Congress – which brings together a community of donors committed to preserving this nation's cultural memory, and the James Madison Council continued to grow the philanthropic community that supports the Library.

We welcomed more notable scholars, officials and cultural icons than I could name here, many of whom have enthusiastically shared their wonder over the Library's vast collections with new audiences who have been inspired to learn more about the Library of Congress.

While Lizzo's visit garnered unprecedented new interest in the Library, we hosted a wide range of accomplished musicians across many genres, who also delighted in experiencing the Library's collections.

Whether a celebrity, a researcher or a first-time visitor to Washington, D.C., more Americans than

ever before experienced the vast treasures of the Library of Congress, thanks to your hard work and dedication day in and day out.

Thank you for your remarkable service on behalf of our nation. Enjoy this holiday season with those you love, and I can't wait to see what we accomplish together in 2023! ■

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## JOIN IN, CONTINUED FROM 7

introduces visitors to the exhibition while the second – titled "Are We Still a Nation of Joiners?" – encourages reflection.

Over the past 50 years, membership in many historical associations has declined, while new organizations, many internet-based, have emerged – more than 1 million U.S. voluntary associations operate today.

The film cites Girls Who Code, founded in 2012 to close the gender gap in tech, and Invisible Hands, launched in New York City during the pandemic to deliver groceries and medicine.

"Is joining diminishing, increasing, evolving?" Dorn asked. "We want viewers to pair what they encounter in the exhibit space with an important question."

The show will be previewed on the evening of Dec. 15 during a Thursday Live at the Library event and will run through 2023.

*"Join In: Voluntary Associations in America" and related programming are made possible by funding secured by the Federalist Society with additional funds provided by the American Bar Association's Standing Committee on the Library of Congress.* ■